

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please DELETE the word "Description" on page 1, line 1.

Please insert the following section heading on page 1, after the title and at line 5:

-- BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention --

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, beginning at line 6, with the following replacement paragraph:

-- The invention relates to a process ~~according to the precharacterizing clause of Claim 1 for the synthesis of a liquid melamine resin, a use of a melamine resin condensate according to Claim 24, and melamine products according to Claim 25.~~ --

Please insert the following section heading on page 1, at line 10:

-- 2. Description of Related Art --

Please insert the following section heading at page 1, at line 24:

-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, beginning at line 25, with the following replacement paragraph:

-- It is the object of the present invention to provide an efficient continuous direct synthesis process for the synthesis of a liquid melamine resin.

Please DELETE the paragraph on page 1, beginning at line 28 in its entirety.

Please insert on page 1, at line 30, the following section headings and paragraph:

-- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Fig. 1 shows a flow diagram of an embodiment of the process according to the invention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--

Please replace the paragraph on page 16, beginning at line 30, with the following replacement paragraph:

-- The invention is explained in more detail below for an embodiment with reference to the figures of the drawings Fig. 1. --

Please DELETE the paragraph on page 16, beginning at line 34.

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Please replace the paragraph on page 16, beginning at line 37, with the following replacement paragraph:

-- ~~Below~~As shown in Fig. 1, an embodiment of the continuous direct synthesis process according to the invention is described schematically. In the present example, three reaction stages 100, 200, 300 are used. --

Please DELETE page 20 entitled "List of reference numerals" in its entirety.